

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE NEWS

ISSUE III



FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 2007

DR. GOLDSCHMID'S LETTER TO THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of Medicine continues to enhance business operations and administrative infrastructure. We are attempting to do this with minimal additional overhead. Fortunately, the excellent performance of our administrative staff and the hard work of our physicians and patient care providers have led to a remarkable turnaround in our finances. We anticipate finishing the year at break-even despite having sustained record losses in excess of \$750,000 earlier in the year. I would like to thank all of you for the outstanding contributions that led to this success. We have completed the budget for next fiscal year and I believe it is one of the most realistic budgets the Department has put together. Overall, we are budgeted to have a very good year financially.

By now most of you know that the county has agreed to alter the lease agreement with UPH-Kino. This increased subsidy will allow

us to better continue growth and development of new programs. Regarding new programs, the RRC has approved the Internal Medicine Residency program at UPH-Kino. This could not have been accomplished without the hard work of many in the Department led by Tom Boyer. Dr. Boyer completed the Program Information Form required by the RRC to start the new program. New house staff are expected to begin in July 2008. This will have enormous positive impact on our operations at UPH-Kino. This is one of the central reasons the county was so interested in working with us to help make this venture successful. We will learn of approvals of many other programs over the next weeks to months.

Lastly, we are instituting a new Hospitalist model. By the end of August, we plan to have four of the six medicine ward teams covered by Hospitalists. This will reduce the attending responsibilities of the other members



of the Department to the two remaining ward teams. The section of General Medicine is growing, and it is my expectation that the bulk of the remaining ward rotations will be covered by this service. In July, we plan to institute a parallel teaching service that will round with trainee members of the teams and do "teaching rounds". The goal of this service is to further enhance the quality of teaching, especially to students rotating through internal medicine. I hope to be able to directly reimburse faculty for this extra teaching engagement in the near future.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *June 17th-Fathers Day*
- *June 27th-Residents as Teachers Workshop*

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UPDATES

The Graduate Medical Education Office and the residency training programs are busy preparing for 150+ new house staff. The New Chief Residents will be starting mid-June. They are Rose Do, Sanjay Bhartia, Dan VanHandel, and John Kuczynski. Let's all thank Jooby John, Michelle Lally, Huy Phan, and Daniel Stien for the wonderful job they did this past year as Chief Residents.

The College of Medicine is planning the first (ever) Residents as Teachers workshop for the incoming residents. It is scheduled for Wednesday, June 27, from 1:30pm-5:00pm as the first part of the new residents' orientation to the College of Medicine. The workshop is being designed by Joseph Alpert, MD, Gordon Woods, MD Med, and Nancy Koff, PhD.

We have successfully recruited a Coding Manager for the Department of Medicine. Her name is Tracey Ahearn. She comes to us from UMC, where she was the senior coder for the Cancer Center. Prior to that she worked in the Dept of Surgery at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD), where she was the Coding Manager for three years. In addition to her role as Coding Manager for DoM, she will also serve as our documentation and education manager. Tracey will officially start on 6/4/07, and will be located in Rosalie's old office.

Dr. Stuart Quan will be stepping down as Chief of the Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine Section around June 30th. Dr. John Bloom will be taking his place as acting Section Chief. Dr. Quan continues to be the Editor in Chief for the Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine, a member of the Internal Medicine Residency Review Committee and Chair of the Sleep Medicine Test Writing Committee for the American Board of Internal Medicine. In August, Dr. Quan will be moving to Boston to accept a faculty position at Harvard Medical School in the Division of Sleep Medicine where he will be in charge of their professional and public education initiatives and practice Sleep medicine. Dr. Quan will continue to return to Tucson monthly to work on research projects for the foreseeable future.

WE ANTICIPATE FINISHING THE YEAR AT BREAK-EVEN DESPITE HAVING SUSTAINED RECORD LOSSES IN EXCESS OF \$750,000 EARLIER IN THE YEAR.

-DR.
GOLDSCHMID

NEW AWARDS AND GRANTS

Dr. Minolfa Prieto-Carrasquero, from the Diabetes Research Program, had a poster presentation of the research work entitled: "Reciprocal Changes in Intrarenal Angiotensin II (AngII) and Angiotensin 1-7 (Ang 1-7) Levels in Goldblatt Hypertensive RATS" at the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Inter-American Society of Hypertension and Consortium for Southeastern Hypertension Control ASH/COSEHC Conference in Miami, FL on May 6-11. Also, Dr. Prieto-Carrasquero was approved by the American Physiological Society Research Career Enhancement Award to perform a training in Laser Capture Microdissection techniques for two-weeks at the Gene Therapy Center, Tulane University.

Dr. Jayanthika Wijeweera, Research Associate in the Diabetes Research Program, recently attended a course on "Glucose Clamping in the Conscious Mouse," at Vanderbilt University's Mouse Metabolic Phenotyping Center in Nashville, Tennessee. The Center is sponsored by NIDDK, the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, to identify and characterize mouse models of diabetes in the cardiovascular system, skeletal muscle, liver, pancreas and other organs. Dr. Wijeweera intends to develop this technique here in order to make this procedure available to U of A investigators in various disciplines to assist them in their specific areas of research.



WANT TO SUBMIT INFO FOR THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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